

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 05159 221606Z

53

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-06 ISO-00 AEC-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00

FPC-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00

FRB-01 IO-10 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /119 W

----- 076441

R 221403Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8989

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, NO

SUBJECT: VISIT TO NORWAY OF OPEC REPRESENTATIVE

1. SECRETARY GENERAL OF OPEC ABDERRAHMAN KHENE
CONCLUDED A THREE-DAY VISIT TO OSLO ON NOVEMBER 12.
HE WAS INVITED BY THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WHEN
NORWAY WAS STILL CONTEMPLATING FULL MEMBERSHIP IN
THE IEP SO THAT THE RATIONALE OF THIS MOVE COULD BE
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PAGE 02 OSLO 05159 221606Z

GIVEN TO HIM. THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT FEEL

IT COULD RETRACT ITS INVITATION WHEN IT DECIDED TO SEEK ASSOCIATE STATUS IN THE IEP. LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE WAS DISCUSSED DURING KHENE'S VISIT. HE MADE SEVERAL SPEECHES AND HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH NORWEGIAN OIL.

2. NORWAY INITIATED CONTACT WITH OPEC LAST SPRING, ALTHOUGH IT HAS REPEATEDLY SAID THAT IT HAD NO INTENTION OF SEEKING MEMBERSHIP. AT THE CLOSE OF HIS VISIT TO NORWAY, KHENE SAID THAT WHILE NO ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE CONTACTS BETWEEN OPEC AND NORWAY HAD BEEN MADE, OPEC WAS PREPARED TO STRENGTHEN ITS RELATIONS WITH NORWAY, BUT IT WILL BE UP TO NORWAY TO CHOOSE THE APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR THESE CONTACTS. HE WAS SURE OPEC WOULD AGREE TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP OR OBSERVER STATUS, BUT SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT NECESSARY FOR FRUITFUL COOPERATION. (THIS ATTITUDE IS UNDERSTOOD TO BE CONSIDERABLY WARMER THAN THE RECEPTION NORWAY RECEIVED WHEN IT MADE INITIAL CONTACT WITH OPEC LAST SPRING.) KHENE ALSO EXPRESSED HIS GRATIFICATION WITH NORWAY'S GO SLOW OIL POLICY WHICH HE FOUND CONSISTENT WITH OPEC OBJECTIVES.

3. UNDER SECRETARY ARNESEN IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHO HAS BEEN A LEADING ADVOCATE OF CLOSE NORWEGIAN CONTACT WITH OPEC, CONFIRMED THE ABOVE AND TOLD DCM THAT KHENE WAS GENERALLY RECEPTIVE TO GISCARD D'ESTAING'S SUGGESTION FOR A PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE BUT SAID THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD INCLUDE OTHER COMMODITIES.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974OSLO05159
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740339-0640
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741120/aaaaaqop.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <24 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO NORWAY OF OPEC REPRESENTATIVE
TAGS: ENRG, OTRA, NO, (KHENE, ABDERRAHMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005